



FACT SHEET

Department of Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Taiwan

- On October 20, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determination in the antidumping duty (AD) investigation on imports of polyethylene retail carrier bags (plastic bags) from Taiwan.
- Dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than normal value.
- Commerce preliminarily determined that producers/exporters from Taiwan have sold plastic bags in the United States at 28.69 to 95.81 percent less than normal value.
- Two mandatory respondents, Ipsido Corporation and TCI Plastic Co., Ltd., received preliminary dumping rates of 95.81 and 28.69 percent, respectively. All other producer/exporters from Taiwan received a preliminary dumping rate of 28.69 percent.
- The petitioners for this investigation are Hilex Poly Co., LLC, of Hartsville, SC, and Superbag Corporation, of Houston, TX.
- The products subject to this investigation are plastic bags, which also may be referred to as t-shirt sacks, merchandise bags, grocery bags, or checkout bags. Plastic bags are classifiable under subheading 3923.21.0085 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). While the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, Commerce's written description of the subject merchandise governs the scope of this investigation.
- In 2008, imports of plastic bags from Taiwan were valued at an estimated \$51 million.

NEXT STEPS

- Commerce is currently scheduled to issue its final determination in March 2010.
- If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes an affirmative final determination that imports of plastic bags from Taiwan materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order.

PRELIM DUMPING MARGINS:

	PRODUCER/EXPORTER	DUMPING MARGIN
TAIWAN	Ipsido Corporation	95.81%
	TCI Plastic Co., Ltd.	28.69%
	All Others	28.69%

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	March 31, 2009
Commerce Initiation	April 20, 2009
ITC Preliminary Determination	May 15, 2009
Commerce Preliminary Determination	October 19, 2009
Commerce Final Determination*	March, 2010
ITC Final Determination**	February 25, 2010
Issuance of Order***	March 4, 2010

**The original January 11, 2010, deadline is being extended 60 days from publication of the Preliminary Determination under the governing statute.

**This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination by Commerce.

***This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations by both Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

TAIWAN	2006	2007	2008
Volume (Thousand Units)	2,171,587	3,988,867	4,575,499
Value (USD)	17,663,302	38,546,248	51,250,854

Source: U.S. International Trade Commission, Dataweb (HTSUS 3923.21.0085).